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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone)

SUBJECT Production of Military Tractors at Güstrow
Tractor Works

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1. The Zugmaschinenwerk Güstrow is under direct Soviet authority. It is not a plant of the Soviet Aktiengesellschaft (SAG), but is under the direct control of the Red Army.
2. In this plant, which has recently been enlarged and equipped with new machines, two types of artillery tractors are principally manufactured. One of 85 hp. and the other 120 hp. caterpillar tractors geared for cross country operation. In the month of August 1953, there were shipped 14 of the 85 hp. tractors, and 21 of the 120 hp.
3. Besides new construction, the Güstrow works also makes repairs on used tractors. The tractors which the Red Army previously had were mostly arranged for gasoline drive. For about two months past these tractors have been in process of conversion to Diesel fuel. In August 8 gasoline tractors were converted to Diesels at Güstrow. How many vehicles were repaired is hard to say because a great many trucks come to the works.
4. At Güstrow is also a workshop for American models. Replacement parts and engines are brought to Güstrow by rail.
5. German workmen have always been employed at Güstrow, but about a month ago the German personnel began to be discharged. Allegedly, of about 40 machines turned out in the month of July, 30 were unserviceable because of iron filings put into them in the warehouse or in the plant.

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